

Curtenius Guard Camp #17

Department of Michigan

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Minutes

Meeting of the Camp
Tuesday, 27 July 2004
Samuel W. Grinnell
GAR Post #283 Hall
115 Main Street
Sunfield, Michigan
49058

Commander Brian Shumway assigned Brothers to fill vacancies of absent officers by appointment Pro Tem.

I. Opening Ritual:

As Commander Brian Shumway opened the Camp meeting per ritual at 7:15 P.M. on Tuesday, 27 July 2004 at the Samuel W. Grinnell G.A.R. Hall, Sunfield, Michigan. It was noted that it was not necessary to drape the charter at this meeting.

II. Roll Call:

Brothers present:

Lavern Aves, Marc Bennetts, Paul Hodges, Charles Langworthy, Jim Lyons, Brian MacVean, David Neese, Michael Neese, Ken Russeau, George Roux, Brian Shumway, and Dana Traub.

Brothers excused:

Luke Coon, Zach Coon, Kyle Emerick, Tom Emerick, Nathan Harrison, James Hiltz, Richard Lee, Michael Mitchell, John Nash, Mark Neese, James A.K. Pahl, James B Pahl, Ron Shull, and Ervin Stahl.

Sick Call:

None reported.

III. Welcome to Guests:

Wellington C. and Laurie Miller of Hastings. Mr Miller came with an interest in membership. His Great-Great-Grandfather Thomas A. Shurtz served with Company E of the 19th Michigan Infantry. He was mustered in on the 5th of September, 1852, as a Private, and mustered out on the 10th of June, 1865, as a Private.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

Bro. Lyons moved, seconded by Bro. Hodges to approve of the minutes of the May 30th, 2004 meeting. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

V. Concerns for Brothers:

Bro. Ervin Stahl was having some testing done in Hospital in Ann Arbor. He may need a pacemaker. All the best is wished to Bro. Stahl.

VI. New Members and Initiations:

JVC David Neese announced that he is in receipt of a completed application from a Mr. Wellington Clinton Miller. He moved to commence voting for membership by voice vote in lieu of the traditional ballot box. Bro. Lyons supported. Motion carried. Voice vote approval was unanimous. The induction immediately followed.

VII. Recess.

Meeting adjourned for recess at 7:36 PM, and recommenced at 7:55 PM.

VIII. Committee Reports:

Commander Shumway reminded the camp that appointments to committees have not changed since 2002, and passed around a list of said appointments to show what positions are taken, and what vacancies exist.

Bylaws:

No report

Memorials and Graves Registration:

No report.

Membership:

No report.

Memorial Day/ Day of Remembrance:

No report.

Military Affairs:

No report.

Patriotic Instruction:

No report.

Program and Publicity:

No report.

Grinnell Award:

The 2004 recipient of the Grinnell Award was Paul Hodges in recognition of his continuous devoted service with the Boy

Scouts of America awarding Eagle Scout certificates at the Courts of Honor, and making sure that no Court of Honor was unattended for SUVCW awards.

Camp Council:

No report.

Hall Restoration:

There was much discussion about possible future projects to maintain and enhance the functionality of the hall. A monetary donation from Jackson National Life Insurance Company was the subject of some concern. It was granted primarily for a project in which the camp membership unanimously agreed was unfeasible and incompatible with the hall's historical integrity. The honest, alternative use of the grant was discussed between Bros. Aves, Lyons, Roux, David Neese, Miller and Shumway. The resulting idea was presented by Bro. Roux, when he moved to write a letter to Jackson National Life explaining the situation, and offering to return the grant unless permitted to use the funds for another more compatible project. Motion supported by Bro. Hodges. Motion carried. Commander Shumway will draft the letter.

Color Guard:

No report.

IX. Orders and Communications:

Commander Shumway announced that Dept. Commander Gary will have SUVCW blazer patched available for purchase for \$19. That purchase would include a bonus SUVCW mouse pad. Bro. Lyons received an email from Bro. Nash in which he expressed greetings from his home in Arkansas, and told a story of his experiences with meeting distant relatives of Union soldiers interred in a local cemetery. He says his area of the state seems to have a bit of a "Bluish Tint". Bro. Shumway presented Certificates of Recognition on behalf of Commander-in-Chief Kent Armstrong to Ken Russeau, Charles Langworthy, and Andrew Hart, in recognition of their honorable service in the Second World War this year of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial. C-in-C Armstrong wanted to present the certificates in person but was regrettably committed to other duties.

X. Unfinished Business:

Bro. Traub stated that no campfire meeting has been planned yet. There seems to be

some difficulty in organizing a meeting outdoors in the village park due to unpredictable weather and short-term notification to members. The planning will continue, however, as a campfire meeting has been a popular idea. Bro. Shumway commented that when a campfire meeting comes to fruition, that he would like it possibly to emulate a Civil War camp organizational meeting with the members outside around the fire. Bro. Shumway mentioned that he would be attending the National Encampment in Iowa in August, and any Brothers wishing to carpool with him were welcome.

Secretary

Any additions, corrections, or inquiries regarding the newsletter can be directed to:

Michael Neese
903 S. Bostwick St
Charlotte, Michigan 48813-2172
(517) 541-0054
yeoldebeehive@netzero.com

XI. New Business:

Bro. Lyons noted that the Sunfield Farmers Picnic will be taking place the third weekend in August, and the hall will be open from 10 AM to 3PM that Saturday. Volunteers were needed to attend the hall and serve as color bearers in the parade at Noon.

XII. Good of the Order:

Bro. Hodges spoke about his attendance to a June Boy Scouts Court of Honor for a Justin Fisher, a boy with MD who spend all of last summer trying to get more than 16 merit badges, and managed to earn 20. Bro. Ken Russeau felt that it would be beneficial to the camp and its newer members if information were collected about the artifacts that fill the hall. Bro. Lyons explained the meaning behind the replica Corps badges on the wall, and pointed out that the Women's Relief Corps made them as decorations for the hall. One of the framed flags was apparently brought back from the gunboat Manhattan in 1864 by Thomas VanBuren, a member of GAR Post No. 183. Another may be a community service flag since it has many stars on it symbolizing a soldier or sailor at war. The flags are very fragile and may be destroyed if removed.

XIII. Treasurer's Report:

No report. Treasurer's post vacant.

XIV. Closing Ritual:

Commander Shumway closed the meeting per ritual at 8:44 P.M..

Respectfully Submitted,
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Michael T. Neese